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## SOME NEW AFRICAN SIPHONAPTERA.

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(With 8 text-figures.)

THE British Museum Expedition to Mt. Ruwenzori and Mt. Elgon obtained several new fleas, the full descriptions of which will be published in the Report on the Expedition. As Mr. G. H. E. Hopkins, Senior Entomologist of the Agricultural Laboratories, Kampala, Uganda, is working at a Key to the East African Siphonaptera and would like to include the new species, I publish here preliminary descriptions and some figures sufficient for the recognition of the species. I add a further species lately sent to me by Mr. Hopkins, for which I here thank him.

### 1. *Ctenophthalmus stenurus* sp. nov. (text-fig. 101).

♂. Near *Ct. eumeces* J. & R. 1913, but the distal margin of elasper not sinuate, the lower apical angle therefore not projecting as a separate process; digitoid F much narrower, upper margin of exposed outer half straighter and bearing only 6 or 7 bristles; ventral arm of sternite IX shorter; ventral hook of paramere longer and narrower.

East side of Mt. Elgon, 11,000 ft., ii. 1935, off *Rhabdomys pumilio diminutus*; 1 ♂.

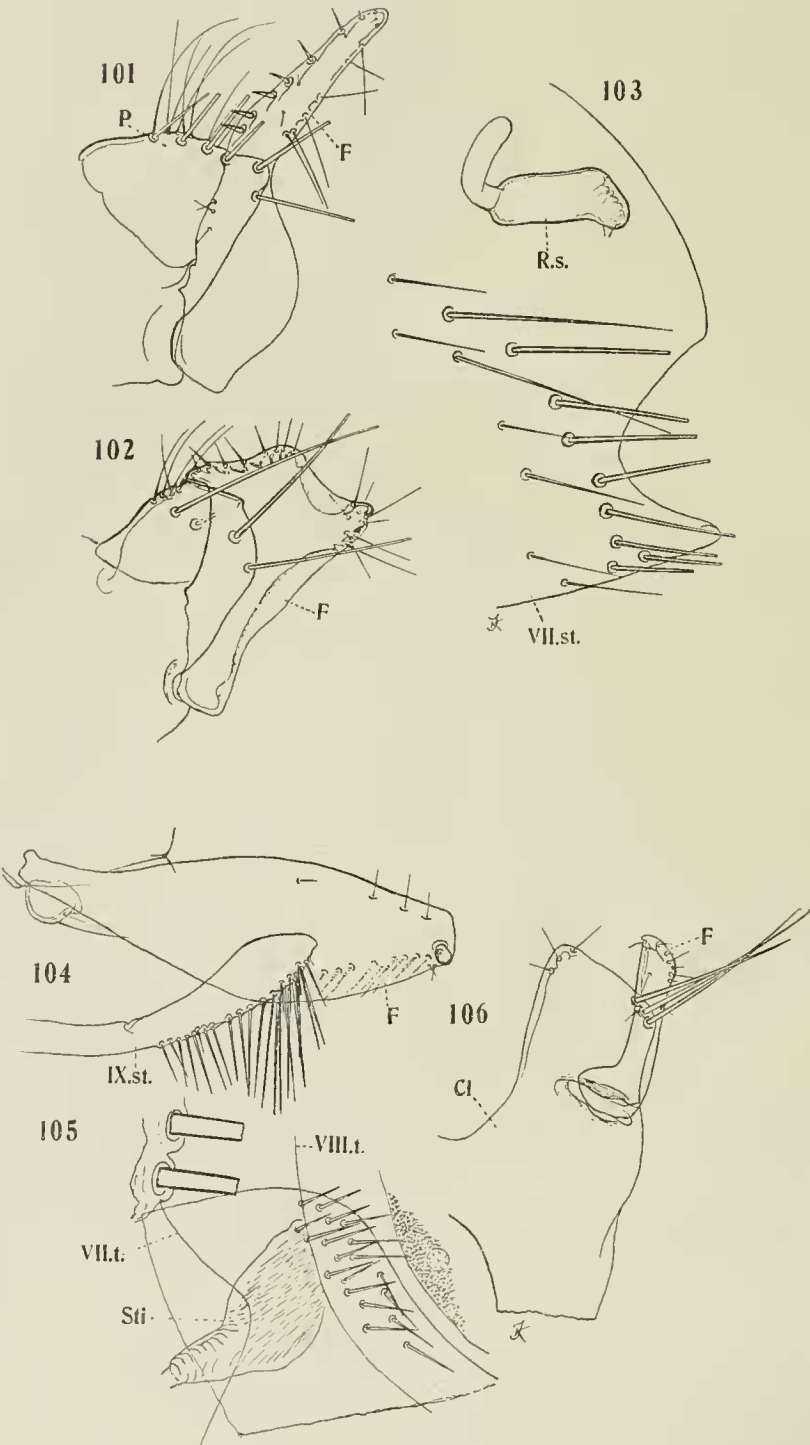
### 2. *Ctenophthalmus edwardsi* sp. nov. (text-figs. 102, 103).

♂♀. Nearest to *Ct. audax* J. & R. 1913; proboscis long and second and third genal spines obtuse, as in that species. Clasper broader, truncate, with the ventral margin rounded; digitoid F quite different, irregularly triangular, its distal margin twice incurved and in middle excurved. Ventral arm of sternite IX much shorter. In ♀ sternum VII with large, more or less rounded sinus, the lower lobe narrow and at least as long as the broad upper lobe; body of spermatheca (R.s.) variable, usually shorter and broader than in text-fig. 103.

Mt. Elgon, 11,000 ft., ii. 1935, off *Tachyoryctes* and *Otomys jacksoni*; a series.

### 3. *Dinopsyllus semnus* sp. nov. (text-figs. 104, 105).

♂♀. Very near to *D. hirsutus* Roths. 1908. On tergum IX between sensillum and stigma of VIII a cluster of bristles, in ♂ about 18, in ♀ (text-fig. 105) about 20. Digitoid F of ♂ widest in middle, a little over thrice as long as broad

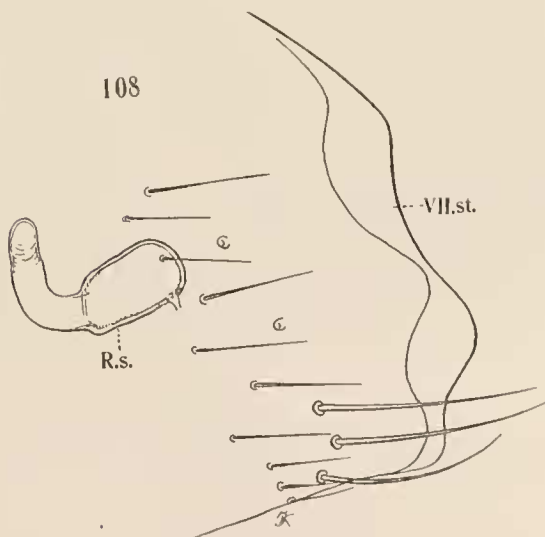
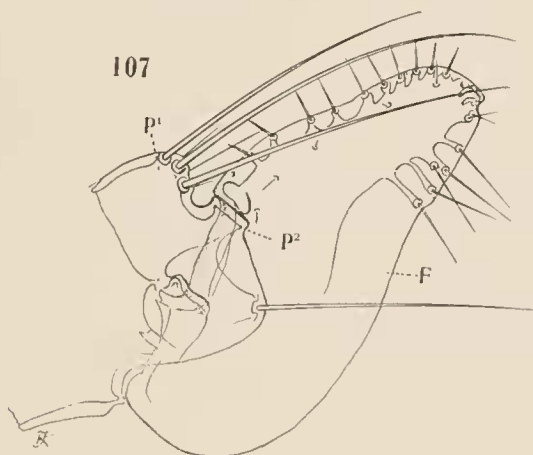


(10 : 3) ; ventral arm of sternite IX with an uninterrupted ventral row of bristles from apex to median joint. In ♀ sternum VII without distinct lateral sinus and ventral apical angle of tergum VIII rounded off, not projecting as a triangular lobe.

Mt. Sabinio, Kigezi, off *Cricetomys*, xi.34 ; 1 ♂, 1 ♀.

4. ***Ischnopsyllus ectopus*** sp. nov. (text-fig. 106).

♂. Spines of metathoracic and abdominal combs reduced in number and size : 4, 4, 2, 2. Clasper longer than broad, dorsal and ventral margins almost parallel, apical margin oblique, nearly straight, ventral apical angle rounded off, with three



long bristles, upper angle smaller ; digitoid F almost straight, slightly widened apically, projecting beyond lower angle of clasper, its dorsal margin measured from subbasal bend as long as the clasper is broad. Sternite IX strongly elbowed

in middle, the elbow strongly projecting distad, the corresponding sinus of anterior (= dorsal) side regularly semicircular. The pair of processes of parameres very long.

Mt. Elgon, on bat, no further data ; 1 ♂.

5. **Ctenophthalmus segregus** sp. nov. (text-figs. 107, 108).

♂♀. Very near to *Ct. bacopus* Jord. 1933. Differs in the ♂ in the upper apical process P<sup>1</sup> of the clasper being wider than the lower P<sup>2</sup>, whereas in *Ct. bacopus* P<sup>2</sup> is wider than P<sup>1</sup>; ventral margin of clasper ventricose; digitoid F obtuse, the apex being more rounded, the upper margin slightly bent down in middle; ventral arm of sternite IX broader. In ♀ sternum VII twice incurved, upper angle obtuse and rounded, median and ventral lobes strongly rounded, median one more projecting than ventral one; body of spermatheca (R.s.) somewhat shorter than tail.

Uganda: Arua, West Nile, vii.37, off *Arvicanthis abyssinicus* subsp., and Attiak, Gulu, vii.37, off *A. abyss. rubescens* (G. H. E. Hopkins), 4 ♂♂, 2 ♀♀.

The ♀♀ are very different from the Nakuru specimens described by me as that sex of *Ct. bacopus*, and suggest that we do not yet know the true ♀ of that species.

NOTE.—The genotype of *Meringis* Jord., Nov. Zool. xl. p. 268 (1937) is *M. parkeri* Jord., l.c. p. 269.

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